

Analysis of Reverberation Chamber's Uniformity and Isotropy on Radiation Characteristics of Antenna

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ABSTRACT

In recent years, the electromagnetic compatibility (EMC) testing community is continually searching for more reliable, reproducible, and economical test techniques. Reverberation chamber (RC, also known as mode-stirred chamber) technique enjoys growing popularity as a complement or replacement to open area test site (OATS), (semi-) anechoic chambers (ACs), or transverse electromagnetic (TEM) cells for radiated interferences/susceptibility tests. A reverberation chamber is basically a metallic cavity containing several metallic stirrers. To excite a high intensity field in the cavity, we change the boundary conditions by continuously rotating metallic stirrers to break up the electromagnetic field distribution in specific space and generate enough numbers of effective resonance modes to produce a uniform and isotropic electromagnetic environment. The purpose of RC is to achieve statistically uniform, isotropic, and randomly polarized electromagnetic test environment inside the testing volume. When electronic devices under test have complex radiation patterns, RC tests are expected to produce more accurate and rigorous measurement results than the traditional OATS or (semi-) AC testing methods. In this thesis, we will first check the dimensions of useful test volume. We then use the transmitting/receiving antennas with known characteristics to investigate the effect of randomly polarized electromagnetic test environment on radiation characteristics of antennas inside the testing volume and the uniformity and isotropy of the test zone. A comparison between numerical simulation results and experimental measurements were analyzed and discussed.

Keywords : Reverberation Chamber ; Radiated Interference/Susceptibility Tests ; Isotropy ; Field Uniformity

Table of Contents

封面內頁 簽名頁 授權書	iii	中文摘要	iii
.	iv	英文摘要	v
.	vi	目錄	vii
.	x	表目錄	xv
(空一行) 第一章 緒論 1.1 研究動機	1	1.2 研究方法	1
.	3	1.3 論文大綱	3
.	5	第二章 電波迴響室介紹 2.1 何謂電波迴響室	5
.	11	2.2 電波迴響室基本理論	9
.	11	2.2.1 模態	9
.	12	2.2.2 模態	12
.	14	2.3 電波迴響室相關特性參數	14
.	14	2.3.1 品質因子	14
.	16	2.3.2 品質因子頻寬	16
.	16	2.3.3 最低模態數和最低可用頻率	16
.	18	2.3.4 統計所需的取樣數	22
.	24	2.3.5 攪拌扇葉效率	24
.	25	2.3.6 電波迴響室內的電場	25
.	25	2.3.7 負載效應	25
.	27	2.3.8 耐受性測試的輸入功率估算	27
.	28	2.4 電波迴響室與電波暗室之比較	28
.	29	2.5 模態調諧(mode-tuning)之迴響室校正方法介紹	29
.	30	2.5.1 場均勻度確認	30
.	30	2.5.2 接收天線的校正	30
.	38	2.5.3 迴響室的插入損耗	39
.	39	2.5.4 最大迴響室負載效應驗證	39
.	40	2.5.5 工作區域裡有待測物時之迴響室特性驗證	40
.	43	2.5.6 品質因子()和時間常數()之校正	43
.	45	2.6 電波迴響室的優點與應用	45
.	45	2.6.1 電波迴響室的優點	45
.	46	2.6.2 電波迴響室之相關應用	46
.	48	第三章 電波迴響室電磁數值模擬與分析 3.1 電磁數值模擬與參數設定	48
.	52	3.2 測試用之對數週期天線模擬分析	52
.	60	3.3 數值模擬結果與分析	60
.	76	第四章 電波迴響室之實際量測與分析 4.1 電波迴響室基本配置	76
.	81	4.2 實際量測結果與分析	81
.	97	4.3 量測與模擬結果之比較	97
.	99	第五章 結論	99
.	101	參考文獻	101

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